

# PRESS RELEASE



The Old Dairy  
Winchester Hill  
Sutton Scotney  
Winchester SO21 3NZ

Telephone: 01962 763900  
Fax: 01962 763901  
Email: [info@bcm.co.uk](mailto:info@bcm.co.uk)  
[www.bcm.co.uk](http://www.bcm.co.uk)

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## Recent changes to Single Payment Scheme

The Farming Minister, Jim Fitzpatrick has recently announced changes to the Single Payment Scheme. The first change is that there will be a minimum claim size for all application of one hectare. The second change is that the protein crop premium is going to come to an end in 2012.

Andrew Bays from BCM comments: "The minimum claim size has been a proposal which has been floating about for quite a while now. There was concern that it might be higher than the rate they have set of one hectare. A one hectare limit is unlikely to affect many claimants in the UK.

The end of the protein premium has been widely discussed but farmers will need to be aware that from 2012 they will only receive the flat rate on the Single Payment without any additional premium. This, although of concern as the premium was a useful addition to farming income, will probably pale into insignificance when one considers that the overall scheme will also be revised in the 2012 year. "

For further details please contact Andrew Bays on 01962 763900.

Partners: Iain Curry Andrew Bays Henry McCowen Ros Foreman Alastair Wilson James Fraser

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Registered Office: The Old Dairy, Winchester Hill, Sutton Scotney, Winchester, SO21 3NZ